



### **Middle School November News**

Haines School -- 247 W. 23rd Place -- 773-534-9200

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Ms. Khawam (304)

Social Science - Ms. Twillie (302)

Special Education - Ms. Berman (205)

*"Families are a valuable asset to a child's education."*

### **Character Trait of the Month: Caring (Brown)**

### **School Safety and Security**

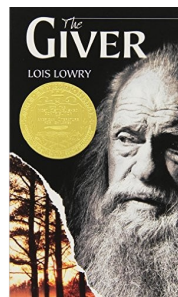
In an effort to keep our students, teachers, and staff safe and secure at Haines we are implementing new rules in addition to our existing safety and security rules.

1. Parents must have an appointment to speak to any teacher.
2. If a parent does not have a scheduled appointment, they are welcome to leave a note for the teacher in the office.
3. The office will not be calling up to the classroom if there is no meeting set.

### **Important Information Regarding Parent Portal**

A flyer was placed on the Haines website regarding how to log into Parent Portal. If you have not seen it, and are still not connected to Parent Portal, please go to the Haines website and/or send an email to your child's teacher so that they may send you a copy.

### **English Language Arts**



**7th graders:** We are reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. *The Giver*, a utopian and dystopian novel, follows the story of 11-year old Jonas who is chosen to become the new Receiver of an egalitarian society. In this futuristic society, there is no pain, fear, war, and hatred. Students will create their own utopian society and write a literary analysis paper.

**6th graders:** We are reading *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan (historical fiction). Esperanza is living the good life on her family's ranch in Mexico, when she and her mother must escape from Mexico and settle in a camp of migrant farm workers during the Great Depression, she finds poverty, hard work and discrimination. Esperanza becomes involved in California migrant workers' rights, and saves her mother in the process. As with many immigrants, Esperanza must transition from a comfortable life back home to a life of poverty in the US—a land that many immigrants see as wealthy and prosperous. Students will interview someone and write their history.

ELA READING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Critical analysis</li> <li>•Critical thinking</li> <li>•Cultural connections</li> <li>•Internet skills</li> <li>•Literary analysis</li> <li>•Map Skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Making inferences and drawing conclusions based on text evidence</li> <li>•Online research</li> <li>•Using Literary Language in both speaking and writing</li> <li>•Visualization of Text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Analyzing Character Development</li> <li>•Identifying and explaining literary symbolism</li> <li>•Using a Climax Chart</li> <li>•Writing summaries of narrative text</li> <li>•Working in collaborative groups</li> </ul>
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**Math**

All math students are encouraged to discuss the mathematics in the classroom by asking questions and building on each others' ideas. Being able to communicate is extremely important in building knowledge and practicing the use of good vocabulary!

**6th graders** completed their first unit that focused on exploring rational numbers and their operations. We have begun our exploration of integers -- positive and negative -- and developing an understanding of what a negative number means. This includes understanding the difference between rational numbers and integers! Importantly, we will be using the number line to see how values are placed on it to determine which number is bigger and discover how the number line works with negative numbers. We also will use the coordinate plane and use absolute value to find the distance between two points.

All 6th graders should continue working to organize themselves for success in the mathematics class! This includes maintaining their binder to include all of their materials (so that nothing is inadvertently left in their locker, in their desks or at home!). They also will continue to update their vocabulary, take notes daily and talk to each other with respect so that we can learn from each other.

**7th graders** are working on our geometry unit, Shapes and Designs, focusing on the properties (attributes) of certain shapes and their use in designs. We will soon explore the relationship of angles using parallel lines cut by a transversal and see some patterns that occur. Additionally, they are exploring using important theorems and properties to solve larger geometry problems. This will set them up for success in their high school Geometry classes, in which they will need to conduct formal proofs.

**Science**

**6th graders** will start new unit : *Plate Tectonics*. In this unit, students will learn that Earth is a dynamic planet. Earth's landmasses are changing position continuously as they move across Earth's surface. This movement is possible because of the movement of tectonic plates. As plates move, mountain ranges form, earthquakes happen, and volcanoes form. Just like previous years, students will reflect on their scientific observations and and

provide evidence on which of the eight (8) NGSS practices they think they used during their learning.

**7th graders** are still working in Ecology, but toward the end of November, they will start new unit; **All About You**. In this unit, students will learn how human body functions and how it is a system made of smaller systems within. Students will learn to make healthy choices to keep their bodies functioning properly.

### **Science Fair**

Every Friday of the week, all classes: 301, 302, 303, and 304, s are working on their research for science fair. The projects should be conducted at home, but here in school, every Friday will be spent on research paper which is part of science fair. Please make sure that your child is working on science fair.

### **Social Studies**

**6th graders:** We completed Chapter Two: Early Civilizations. Students have demonstrated mastery in areas of Central Idea and Details and Compare and Contrast. The focus skill for Chapter Three is : Summarize. Students will be introduced to primary and secondary sources from ancient Egypt and Nubia. Students will end this unit with a series writing assignments which rely on biography formats.

**7th graders:** Students continue to source and contextualize primary source and secondary sources. We finished our brief review of early American civilizations and explorers. Students will continue with the Jamestown unit using the Document Based Question (DBQ): Early Jamestown: Why Did So Many Colonist Die? Upon completion of the DBQ analysis students will publish an essay in which they answer the question using primary source documents to support their thesis.

### **Room 205:**

Math: Working on all operations with whole numbers and decimals. Using these skills and apply to real world problems. Reading: Grammar work using a variety of verb tenses correctly in writing. Continue novel study of Shiloh, focusing on comprehension with text evidence, inference and summarization skills. Social Science: read about continued expansion of the United States, impact on land and native cultures. Science. Continue to study process of clinical trials, and moving on to a detailed study of how the body works. Please continue to work on IXL to practice basic skills, and READ, READ, READ!

### **Reminder**

Encourage your child to read daily.

### **Important November Dates**

November 3 - No School (School Improvement Day)

November 15- Report Card Pickup and Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

November 21 - Movie Day (fundraiser for Student Council)

November 22 to 24- Thanksgiving Break

### **November Stars of the Week**

November 1	November 8	November 15	November 29
Zixiong Hu-301 Elisa Li - 302	Yi Hong Liu-301 Jaylen Waidley - 303 Reginald Armstrong -302	Jennifer P. Mei-301 Joseph Jiang - 303	

**Character Trait of the Month**

Oct Kindness **orange**

Nov Caring **brown**

Dec Self control **red**

Jan Self motivation **pink**

Feb Cooperation

March Honesty **green**

April Citizenship **blue**

May Responsibility **yellow**

June Tolerance **turquoise**